

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SCOTT
BLECHA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Scott Blecha of Clatskanie, Oregon. Scott bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Scott and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Scott and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Born and raised in Clatskanie, Scott graduated with honors from Clatskanie High School where a scholarship is named in his honor. After graduating, he answered his nation's call to duty and joined the United States Marines. After a four-year tour, Scott attended the Oregon Institute of Technology, graduating cum laude with a degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology. During the summers, he worked as a Prineville Hotshot, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. Scott loved the job, enjoying the close camaraderie of his crew and the satisfaction of knowing he was helping others. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Scott Blecha. Scott personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork and Professionalism; putting himself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young man.

HONORING JOSEPH FEIGENBAUM

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Joseph Feigenbaum of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It is my pleasure to announce that at 84½ years of age, Mr. Feigenbaum has completed the requirements to receive a Doctorate in International Business from Nova Southeastern University.

Mr. Speaker, "old" is a relative term in Florida. Mr. Feigenbaum accomplished quite a lot in his life: he earned a law degree, built a successful textile career, and ran a factory in Venezuela. However, Mr. Feigenbaum knew retirement would not extinguish his desire to continue to cultivate his life. Through the support of his loving wife, Cherie, and by the strength of his desire, Feigenbaum returned to

the classroom. Eight years later, dedication, discipline, and desire carried him to his goal. Mr. Feigenbaum serves as an inspiration and example for us all.

Education is a lifelong opportunity, befitting anyone who chooses to pursue it. At 84½ years of age, Mr. Feigenbaum qualifies this point. I genuinely believe that his experiences can only benefit his community, and I am proud that he is a Floridian. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mr. Feigenbaum's accomplishments and honor the value he places on education.

TRIBUTE TO DEACONESS LEVARN
DAVIS ON THE OCCASION OF
HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a delightful lady whose life represents the epitome of what a well-lived life should be. For all of these years, she has been a child of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, a good Christian, a wife, a mother, a true neighbor, an anchor, a pillar of the community and a good and honorable citizen.

Mrs. Davis and her husband were pioneers when they moved into what had been an essentially all white community. They were a hard working young couple who produced a family of offspring who have done exceptionally well and contributed significantly to the well-being of our community and our city.

Her children rise up and call her blessed, for she has indeed been a blessing to them and to all of those whose lives she has touched. Happy Birthday, Mrs. Davis and may you have many, many more.

HONORING DEOTHA MALONE ON
HER RETIREMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. J. Deotha Malone on her retirement after 55 years of service to the Sumner County Board of Education. Dr. Malone is a resident of Gallatin, Tennessee, which I have the pleasure of representing in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

Dr. Malone began her teaching career in 1949, the year I was born. She retires this year as the longest working educator in the Middle Tennessee region.

Dr. Malone is a remarkable humanitarian. She has made certain that lack of money does not stand in the way of her students. She has held free remedial reading classes, and she even taught French to students at her own home for no charge. And Dr. Malone hasn't stopped yet. She still tutors adult non-readers in her spare time.

Dr. Malone has served her community not only by teaching, but also by leading. In 1969, she became the first African American to serve on Gallatin's City Council. And she currently serves as the city's vice-mayor.

Congratulations to Dr. Malone on her retirement. I know I join with the citizens of Gallatin in wishing her all the best in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT
BROWNING JR.

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Robert Browning Jr. Rob bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and every day. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Rob and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Rob and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Born and raised in North Carolina, Rob attended McDowell High School and received a degree in forest management from Haywood Technical College. In 1988, he began working for the U.S. Forest Service in Asheville, North Carolina, and in 1992 he became a member of the Region 8 Hotshot Crew, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. In 1993 he transferred to the Savannah River Forest Station where he was an engine operator and firefighter. At the time of the Storm King Mountain Fire, Rob was serving a four-month detail on a Grand Junction helitack crew, a specialized group of firefighters who are often the first to respond to a wildland fire. He was a dedicated member of the Forest Service, and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Robert Browning Jr. Rob personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork, and Professionalism; putting himself in harm's way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young man.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. BLASÉ "KC"
CHARLES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of St. Blasé "KC" Charles in recognition of his significant cultural and economic development contributions to the community.

St. Blasé Charles, better known as KC, hails from the twin island nation of Trinidad and Tobago in the Caribbean. He has been an entertainer for more than 30 years. Famous for his Caribbean-style rendition of the "father of